

PATENT APPLICATION

Client Reference: 50G31939

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

KATSUMI KIMOTO, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2876

Application No.: 09/886,054

Examiner: Daniel St. Cyr

Filed: June 22, 2001

Confirmation No.: 5646

For: PASSING EXAMINATION SYSTEM AND PASSING EXAMINATION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1), therefore, no fee is necessary. Should a fee be deemed necessary, however, the Patent Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account 033975, control #9270/281378.

Respectfully, Submitted,

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Client Ref. FORM PTO-1449 (modified) Atty. М# To: U.S. Department of Commerce Dkt. No. (PW FORM PAT-1449) Patent and Trademark Office 281378 50G31939-USA-AT Applicant: Kimoto et al. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Appln. No.: 09/886,054 Filing Date: June 22, 2001 Page 1 of Examiner: D. St. Cyr Group Art Unit: 2876 Date: November 7, 2003 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Class Sub Date Name Filing Examiner' Document Class Date Number MM/YYYY (Family Name of First Inventor) (if appropriate) Initials* AR 4,993,068 02/1991 Piosenka BR CR DR ER FR GR HR IR JR KR LR English Translation FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Abstract Readily Document Inventor Name Date Country Available MM/YYYY Number Enclosed No Enclose No MR WO 0028485 05/2000 wo Drabble Yes NR |WO 9606409 Yes WO Chapman 02/1996 wo Yes OR |WO 0028484 05/2000 Baird AU 1790495 ΑU Helmut Yes PR 11/1996 JP JP05035935 Eiji Yes 06/1993 QR RR SR TR UR OTHER (Including in this order Author, Title, Periodical Name, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) "Into the future (IBM develops the fastgate system . . .) DIALOG Business and Yes XP002937768, pp 1-3 XR YR ZR AAR **BBR** Date Considered: Examiner Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if *EXAMINER:

not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.